

### **REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-4, 7, 8 and 16-20 were previously pending in this application. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended. As a result, claims 1-4, 7, 8 and 16-20 are pending for examination with claims 1 and 18 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

#### **Prior Art Rejections**

Claims 1-4 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as purportedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 20040131934 ("Sugnaux"). Claims 8 and 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly being unpatentable over Sugnaux. Claims 16 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly being unpatentable over Sugnaux as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of JP 2003021410 ("Ishibashi"). Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly being unpatentable over Sugnaux as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,656,633 ("Yamakawa").

Sugnaux is directed to electrochemical cells that employ non-aqueous organic electrolyte, solid polyimer electrolyte and porous electrode materials.

Independent claims 1 and 18 have been amended to recite "wherein the solar cell exhibits a photoelectric transfer coefficient of about 5.8% or greater." Support for this amendment can be found, for example, in Table 1 of the published specification.

Sugnaux does not disclose an electrode for incorporation in a solar cell where the solar cell exhibits a photoelectric transfer coefficient of about 5.8% or greater. In fact, Sugnaux provides no description of enhancing photoelectric transfer coefficient in a solar cell of any kind.

In contrast, a central teaching of the current application is for the manufacture of electrodes to be incorporated in solar cells that, in turn, exhibit an increased photoelectric transfer. In paragraph [0005] of the published specification, for example, the problem of solar cells having a poor photoelectric transfer coefficient, as low as 1%, is discussed. Referring to paragraphs [0014] and [0047] as examples of how the problem of low photoelectric transfer in solar cells is addressed, carbon having a high specific surface area coupled with catalytic action of a metal carried by the carbon may enhance the charge transfer velocity in an electrode. Further, the manufacturing

methods in which such electrodes are produced, as described in paragraphs [0060] and [0067]-[0084] (Examples 1-6), give rise to solar cells that exhibit a photoelectric transfer coefficient that is about 5.8% or greater.

Accordingly, Sugnaux does not disclose, at least, electrodes that have enhanced photoelectric transfer properties so that, when incorporated in a solar cell, the solar cell exhibits a photoelectric transfer coefficient of about 5.8% or greater. Thus, the rejections of independent claims 1 and 18 should be withdrawn. For at least the same reasons as stated above for claim 1, the rejections of claims 2-4, 7-8, and 16-17 which depend from claim 1 should also be withdrawn.

### CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 23/2825, under Docket No. S1459.70092US00.

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Respectfully submitted,

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